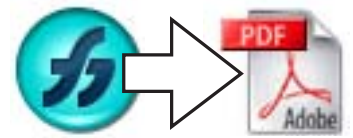
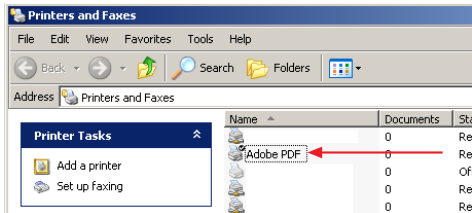


# Converting from Freehand MX to PDF

How to produce a PDF file using Macromedia Freehand MX and Adobe PDF Professional. This requires the full version of Adobe Acrobat, not just the free PDF reader. This guide is provided as an extra reference to Printable Solution's Getting PDFs Print Ready.



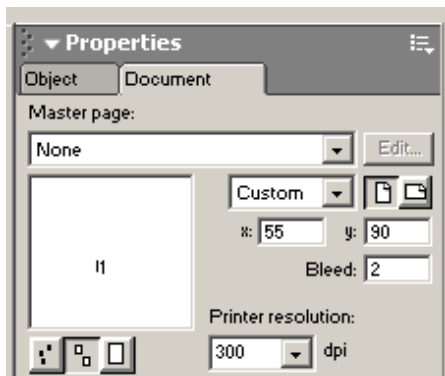
The best way to make a PDF file from Freehand MX is to print to an Adobe PDF virtual printer.



If you have a virtual PDF printer like the one shown on the left then you have the correct version of Adobe Acrobat installed and this guide is for you.

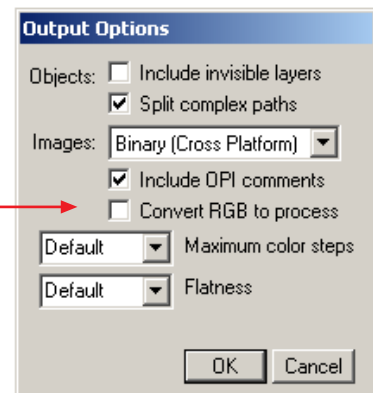
Note that Freehand MX's export to PDF functionality is severely limited. See Adobe tech note 13496 for details.

1. Create a new file in Freehand MX  
Set up your page size & bleed.  
Most sizes require 2mm bleed.



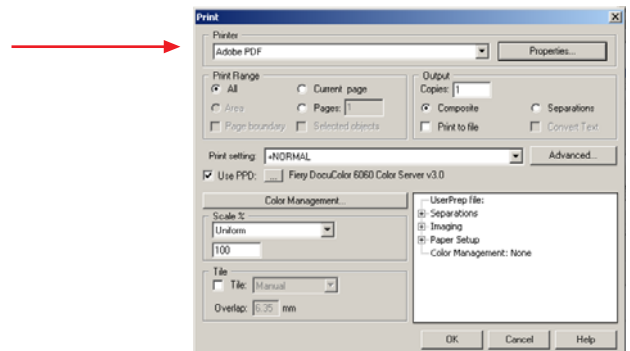
2. Untick Convert RGB to Process.  
This is found under File->Document Settings -> Output Options

This keeps your colours correct. If this is ticked your colours may appear washed out.



3. Choose Adobe PDF as your printer from the Print Dialog.

If Adobe PDF doesn't appear in the list of printers then you might have the Free Adobe PDF Reader instead of Adobe Acrobat.



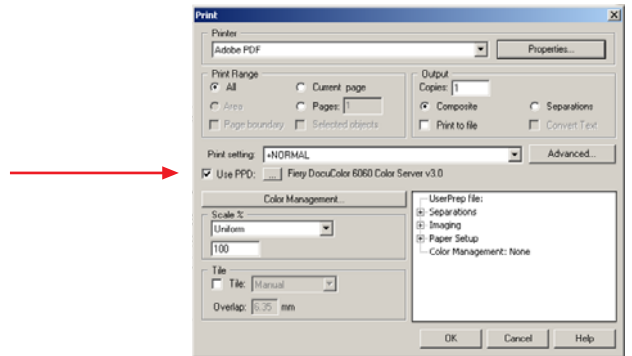
# Converting from Freehand MX to PDF

4. Choose Fiery DocuColor 6060 as your PPD.

The default folder location for PPDs is  
C:\Program Files\Macromedia\FreeHand MXa\English\PPDs

You can download the PPD from the affiliates section of [www.printable.co.nz](http://www.printable.co.nz) and copy & paste this file into the above folder.

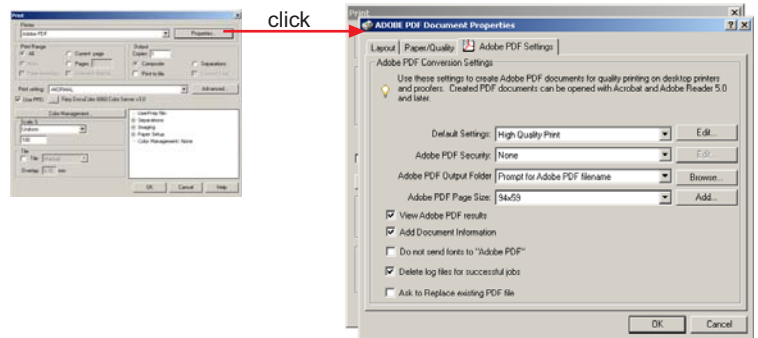
If you skip this step you may have difficulty selecting a custom page size.



5. Choose Adobe PDF Print Properties

Choose Adobe Default Settings:  
*High Quality Print*

Untick *Do not send fonts*



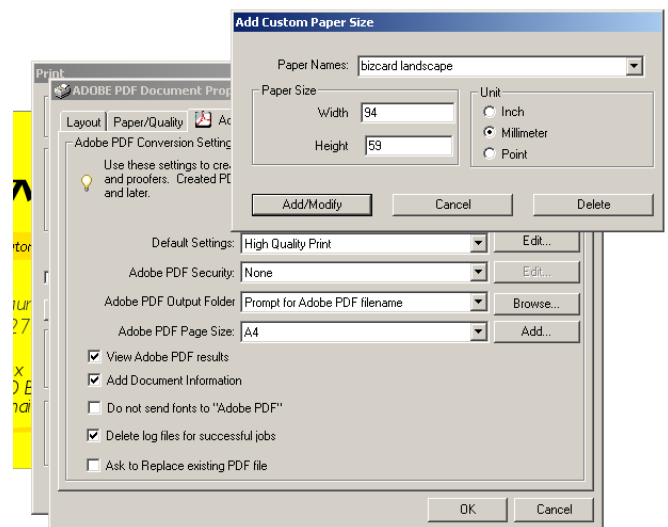
6. You might need to add a new page size.

Set your page size to be equal to your document size plus bleed.

For example:

A Business Card is 90x55mm with 2mm bleed. The page size will be 94x59mm

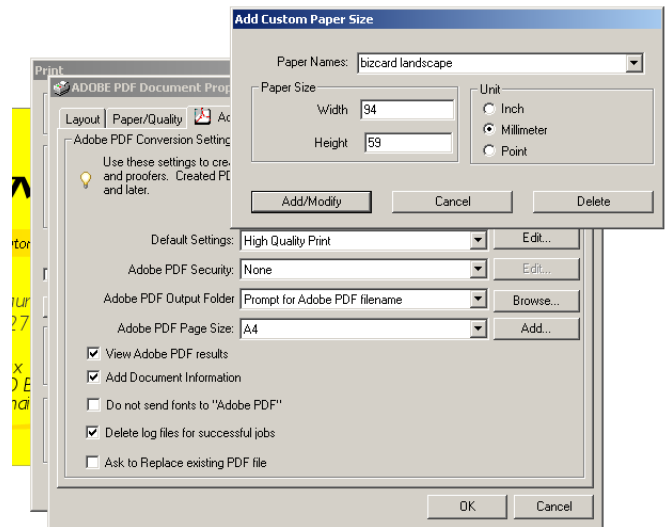
An A5 is 210x148mm with 2mm bleed so the page size will be 214x152mm



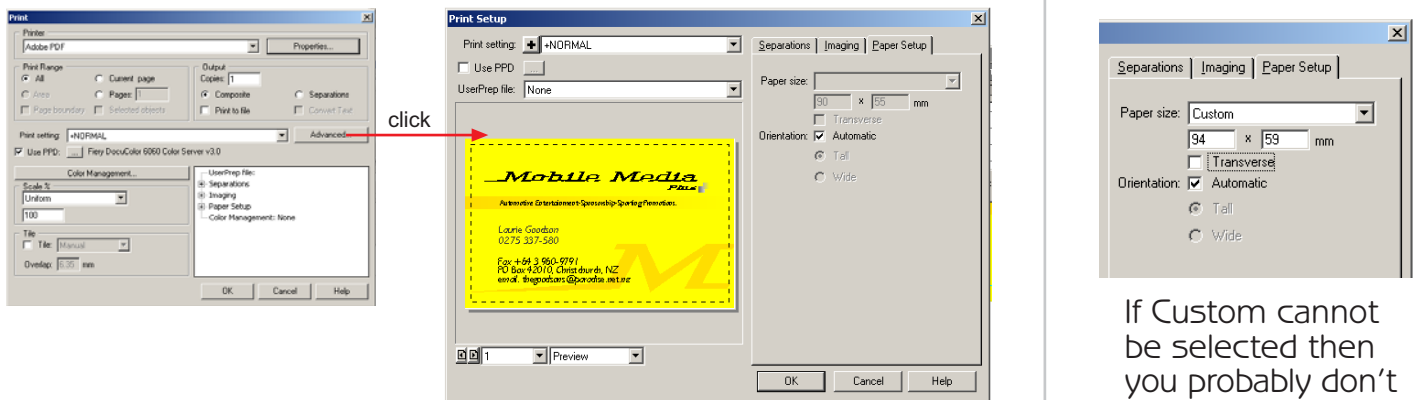
# Converting from Freehand MX to PDF

7. Go back and check that the page size you chose is still selected.

Sometimes the page size won't change and you'll need to repeat this step.



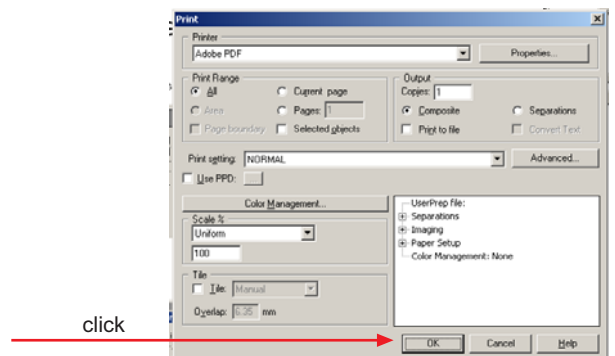
8. Click Advanced on the main Print Dialog. Check the Page size is equal the document size + bleed. Make sure you can see the bleed and the main design in this preview



If Custom cannot be selected then you probably don't have a PPD selected in the main print dialog.

9. Click OK on the main Print Dialog Your PDF file should pop up after a minute or two

If you're not sure if your PDF is right then check the Printable Solution's Getting PDFs Print Ready guide.



# Converting from Freehand MX to PDF

## Trouble Shooting

### Raster Effects Problems

Some Freehand Raster Effects, eg. Glow, Drop shadow, Transparency don't render correctly when printed. Setting the Raster Effects Resolution to 300 and turning on CMYK rendering will sometimes help.

### Transparency Problems

Freehand doesn't always display the correct colours behind an image with transparency or an alpha channel. Try achieving the same effect with a background made in photoshop or use clipping paths.

### PSD Files Don't Import

A Photoshop file (PSD) will not import into Freehand if there is an ICC profile set.

### Fonts aren't embedding correctly

If your fonts come out wrong or your PDF simply won't print try converting the text to paths.

### Exporting to PDF doesn't work

The normal export to PDF functionality of Freehand is no good, that's why we're printing to PDF. See Adobe tech note 13496 for details at [http://www.adobe.com/go/tn\\_13496](http://www.adobe.com/go/tn_13496)

